Operators Manual

In a world of compromise, some don't.

HK USC Carbine
.45 ACP

CAUTION: Read the safety rules before handling the USC Carbine!

USC

Universal Self-loading Carbine

Operators Manual

.45 ACP

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Safety Rules on the use of the HK USC carbine.
Clear the firearm! Before handling the carbine, "clear it!" Do so by:

- **Make sure fingers are outside of the trigger guard and the weapon is pointed in a safe direction at all times!**
- **ON SAFE – Rotate the safety/selector lever to the "Safe" position. (With the safety/selector lever set at the white box with a white bullet symbol inside.)**
- **REMOVE MAGAZINE – Depress the magazine release lever and remove the magazine from the magazine well.**
- **COCKING LEVER – Rotate the ejection port towards the ground and pull the cocking lever rearward one or more times to insure the chamber is empty. Watch for a live round or empty case to be ejected. Rotate the cocking lever upward slightly and lock it into the indent in the cocking lever housing to lock the bolt open.**
- **INSPECT CHAMBER – Inspect chamber for the presence of a live round or empty case.**
  Visually – View chamber through open ejection port.
  Physically – Insert index finger through magazine well or ejection port and feel for the presence of a round or cartridge case in the chamber.
  Remove any live rounds or empty cases from the chamber or from within the firearm or magazine before handling the USC further.

  The HK USC carbine is now considered "Clear".

WARNINGS

- **Carefully read this operators manual before handling the carbine.**
- **Only use the carbine after you have fully reviewed and understand these instructions.**
- **Observe all notes on handling and operation. Failure to do so may result in injury or death of the operator or bystanders.**
- **Do not use any firearm if you have recently ingested alcohol or drugs.**
- **When passing the carbine between persons, the weapon must be clear and the bolt should be open.**
- **Always treat the carbine as if it were loaded and ready to fire.**
- **Never point the carbine at anyone during handling.**
- **Always point the carbine in a safe direction.**
- **Place your finger on the trigger only when your sights are aimed at the target.**

- **Before handling and cleaning the carbine check to ensure that:**
  - The bolt is locked to the rear
  - The carbine is unloaded (cartridge chamber empty)
  - The barrel is free of obstructions
  - The magazine is empty.
- **Keep your finger off the trigger when loading, unloading or otherwise handling the carbine. Always place the trigger finger outside of the trigger guard.**
- **Never use force when handling, disassembling, cleaning and assembling the carbine.**
- **Disassemble the carbine only as far as described in this manual.**
- **A handstop is provided with each USC to keep the nonfiring hand or fingers away from the barrel of the carbine. This handstop should be used at all times and can be mounted on the USC with or without the mounting rails attached.**
- **Always wear eye protection when using the carbine.**
- **Always wear hearing protection when using the carbine.**
- **Take into account the fact that bystanders are also endangered. Ensure bystanders are also wearing ear and eye protection.**
- **Only use ammunition designed to SAAMI specifications that is factory-loaded, undamaged, and of the correct caliber. The use of low powered cartridges (including wadcutter and semi-wadcutters bullets) could lead to functional stoppages (including bullets stuck in the barrel) and is not recommended.**
- **Always mind that the muzzle area is free of obstacles during firing.**
- **Store the USC and ammunition in separate places.**
- **Discharging firearms in poorly ventilated areas, cleaning firearms, or handling ammunition may result in exposure to lead, a substance known to be associated with birth defects, reproductive harm, and other serious injury. Have adequate ventilation at all times. Wash hands thoroughly after exposure.**
- **Heckler & Koch does not assume liability for events due to disregarding this manual, improper handling, negligence, improper treatment, unauthorized exchange of parts, or manipulations of the carbine.**
- **Remember, firearms safety begins with you. Read this operators manual and be familiar with the safe handling of this firearm before using it. Store all firearms in a safe and secure location. Keep firearms away from children. Always be a safe shooter. Keep this manual with the carbine.**

General

The USC Carbine is a semi-automatic small arm designed and constructed according to the latest methods of advanced technology. The upper receiver, magazine, lower receiver, and buttstock are made of high strength polymer. The USC is a simple blowback operated weapon with a fixed barrel capable of semi-automatic fire.

The USC offers maximum safety and accuracy as it fires from the closed bolt position. The USC is easily disassembled into its main assembly groups for cleaning and care without the use of tools.

Accessories

The following accessories are available:

- mounting rails for aiming devices
- handstop
- multi-purpose carrying sling
- tactical lights

NOTE: Photographs throughout this manual show the USC carbine with the accessory Picatinny rail mounted on the top of the upper receiver.

Other accessories may also be available, please contact HK for more information.

Fig. 1 USC (left side view)

Fig. 2 USC (right side view)

Fig. 3 USC oblique (rear, left side view)

Assembly Groups

1 Upper receiver with barrel, folding buttstock and attachment components

2 Bolt Group with recoil spring assembly, complete

3 Lower receiver with trigger mechanism, backplate and magazine well

4 Buttstock with pistol grip

5 Magazine

For accessories see pages 15-16

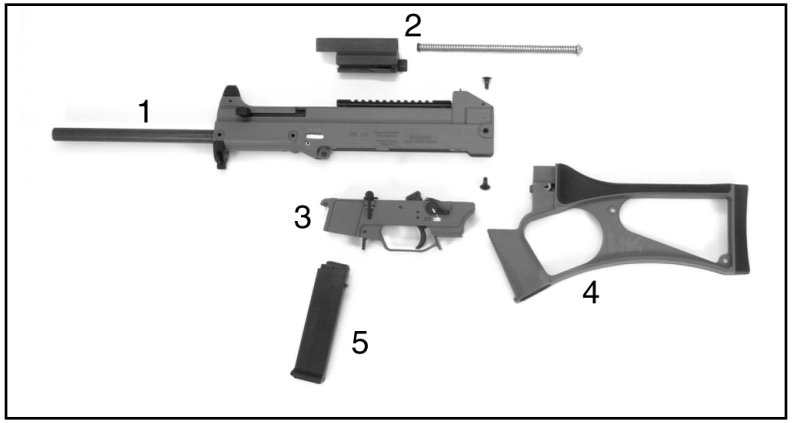


Fig. 4 USC Assembly Groups

Assembly Group 1 Upper receiver with barrel

The upper receiver is produced using fiber-reinforced plastics and houses other subassemblies. The inside of the upper receiver contains metal guideways for the bolt group as well as attachment points for the lower receiver with magazine well and the buttstock.

The barrel is inserted into and pinned to the upper receiver. The cocking lever of the carbine is located above the barrel. It also serves to manually lock the bolt in its open position. The right side of the upper receiver contains the ejection port.

The bottom part of the upper receiver includes the support bolts for the lower receiver and a handstop with dual mounting points for the carrying sling.

The sights are fastened to the top of the upper receiver. They consist of a flip-up type rear sight with diopter (peep) and u-notch apertures as well as of the front sight post with front sight hood. A Picatinny rail is mounted on the top of the receiver. Six additional hard points are molded into the receiver on the left, right, and on the bottom sides. These hard points allow for the easy installation of additional rails.

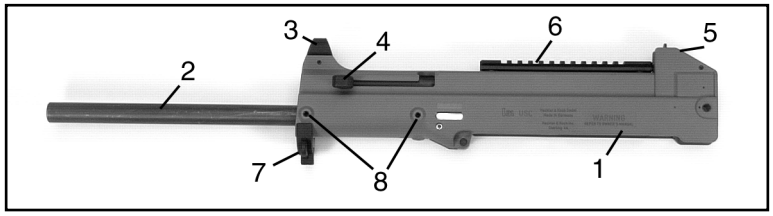


Fig. 5 Upper Receiver with barrel and attachment components

1 Upper receiver
2 Barrel
3 Front sight
4 Cocking lever
5 Flip-up rear sight
6 Accessory Picatinny rail
7 Handstop
8 Hardpoints

Assembly Group 2 Bolt Group
The bolt group, together with the recoil spring assembly, is contained inside the upper receiver. The reciprocal movement of the bolt group provides for feeding and ignition of the cartridge, for extraction and ejection of the spent case as well as for cocking of the hammer. The right side of the bolt has a thumb recess for manual closing of the bolt (forward assist).

The recoil spring assembly pushes the bolt forward into the firing position. The cone-shaped support for the recoil spring assembly is housed in the backplate of the lower receiver. The longitudinally movable guide ring supports itself within the bolt.

The bolt group (Fig. 8 and 9) consists of:

1	bolt	5	firing pin retaining pin
2	firing pin spring	6	recoil spring assembly, complete
3	firing pin assembly	6a	guide ring
4	extractor	6b	support

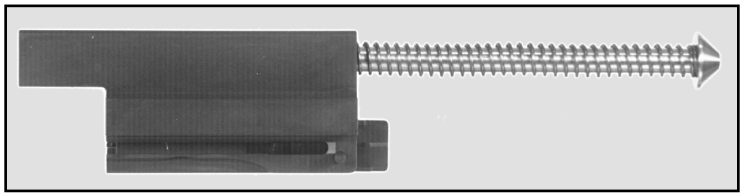


Fig. 8 Bolt Group, assembled

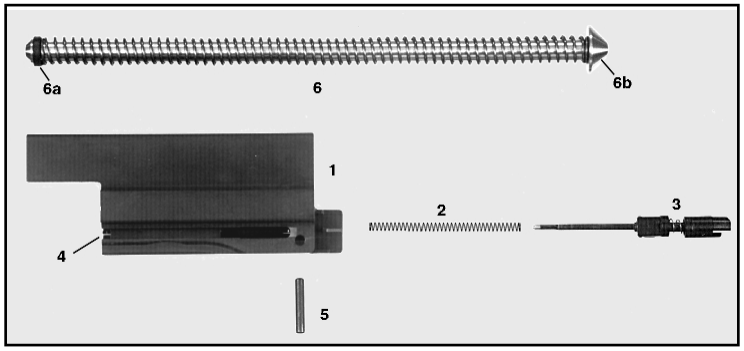


Fig. 9 Bolt Group, disassembled

Assembly Group 3 Lower receiver with trigger mechanism
The lower receiver houses the trigger mechanism with ambidextrous safety/selector levers, the magazine well, magazine release lever and bolt catch. The forward portion of the lower receiver is hooked to the upper receiver. The rear portion is fastened to the upper receiver using guide rails in the pistol grip of the buttstock.

The safety/selector levers are fitted on both sides of the pistol grip. The forward portion of the lower receiver has lugs for attachment to the upper receiver. Behind these lugs is the magazine well with the magazine release lever.

Above the magazine release lever is the bolt catch. It serves to hold the bolt rearward when the last round is fired and to release the bolt from the open position after an empty magazine has been replaced with a loaded magazine.The rear side of the lower receiver includes the integrated backplate with buffer and support for the recoil spring assembly.

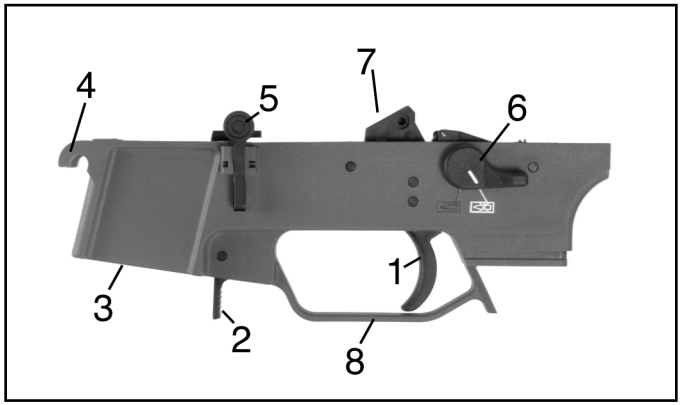
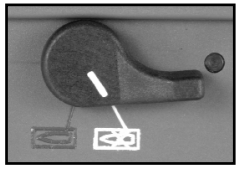
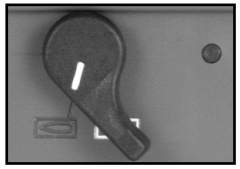


Fig. 10 Lower receiver with trigger mechanism and magazine well

1	Trigger	5	Bolt catch
2	Magazine release lever	6	Safety/Selector lever
3	Magazine well	7	Hammer
4	Attachment lugs	8	Trigger guard



safe



semi-automatic fire

The safety/selector lever of the USC trigger mechanism has two positions :

Position = Safe

Position = Semi Automatic fire

Assembly Group 4 Buttstock with pistol grip

The buttstock is attached to the receiver by the means of two hex head screws which can be installed or removed by using the HK tool.

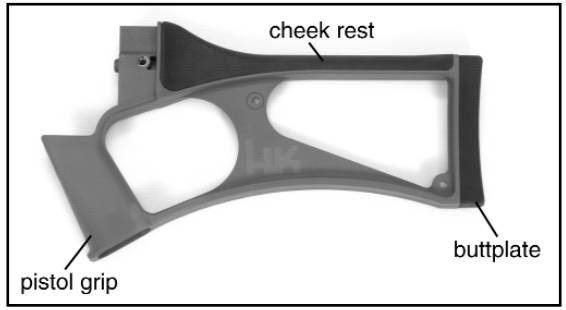


Fig. 11 Buttstock with pistol grip

The buttstock holds the upper and lower receiver together. A rubber cheek rest and buttplate are molded onto the polymer frame of the buttstock.

Assembly Group 5 Magazine

The magazine housing is constructed from plastic. The magazine consists of: magazine housing, magazine floor plate, follower, follower spring and locking plate.

Fig. 12 Magazine, complete

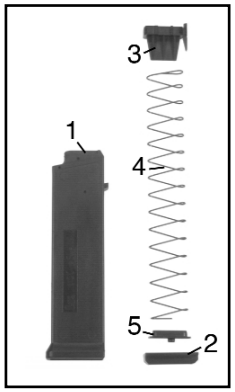


Fig. 13 Magazine, disassembled

1 Magazine housing
2 Magazine floor plate
3 Follower
4 Follower spring
5 Locking plate

Carrying sling
The carrying sling (Fig.14) enables the shooter to carry the USC carbine securely in a wide variety of positions.

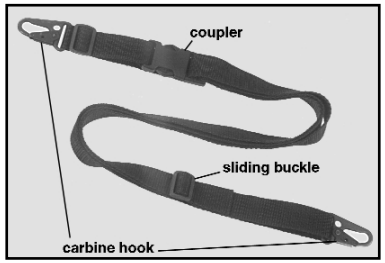


Fig. 14 Sling

Cleaning Kit The cleaning kit includes:

1 Transport case
2 Cleaning patches
3 Cleaning brush
4 Cleaning rod with folding handle
5 Oil bottle
6 Bore brush
7 Patch holder

Fig. 15 Cleaning Kit

Mounting rails (MIL-STD-1913) for aiming devices
The mounting rail (Picatinny Rail) is screwed onto the molded-in hard points provided either on top of the receiver, below the forearm or on the right or left sides of the forearm.

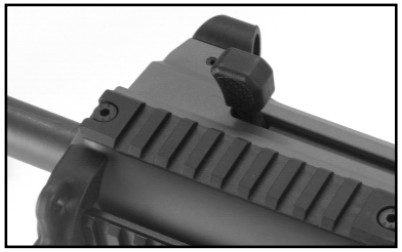


Fig. 16 Mounting rails

Filling the Magazine
- Grasp magazine.
- Slide individual cartridges under the magazine lips one by one (Fig. 20).
- Repeat this process until the required number of cartridges has been inserted or the magazine is full (maximum 10 rounds).

Fig. 17 Filling the magazine

NOTE: Loading more than the prescribed number of rounds will prevent the magazine from being inserted in the weapon with the bolt forward.

Emptying the Magazine
- Grasp magazine.
- With your thumb, push cartridges forward out of the magazine into the palm of the other hand ***OR***
- Grasp magazine and hold it with the points of the bullets pointing towards the bottom.
- Use a piece of wood to slide the cartridges out of the magazine.

Insertion and removal of magazine
- Put the USC safety/selector on (Safe).
- Insert magazine into the magazine well (Fig. 18). The magazine catch has to engage audibly in the process. Tug on the magazine to ensure it is fully engaged.
- For removal of the magazine, push magazine catch forward (Fig 19) and remove magazine downward.

Fig. 18 Insert magazine

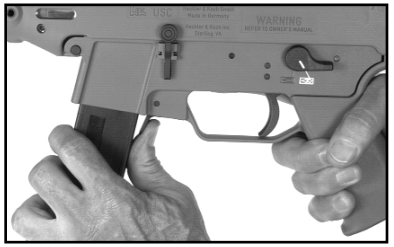


Fig. 19 Remove magazine

Starting Situation 1: No magazine is present in the carbine. The bolt is forward.

- Put the USC safety/selector on (Safe).
- Insert the loaded magazine into the magazine well until the magazine catch engages audibly. Tug downward to ensure it is properly seated.
- The USC is partially loaded and with the safety on.
- Pull cocking lever backwards as far as it will go and let bolt snap back to its forward position chambering a round. In the process do not ride the cocking lever forward.

WARNING: The USC is now fully loaded and with the safety on.

or

- Pull cocking lever backwards as far as it will go, (Fig. 20) and swivel it upwards (engage it in the indent) into the open position.
- Insert the loaded magazine into the magazine well until the magazine catch engages audibly. Tug to check.
- With the open palm of the non-firing hand "slap" the cocking lever downward and forward to chamber a round. During this process do not ride the cocking lever forwards.

WARNING: The USC is now fully loaded and with the safety on.

Flg. 20 Pull cocking lever backwards

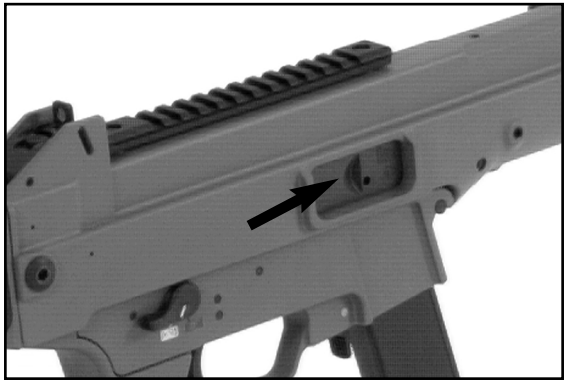
Starting Situation 2: There is an empty magazine in the carbine. The bolt is held back by the bolt catch.

- Put the USC safety/selector on (Safe).
- Push magazine catch forward and remove empty magazine.
- Insert the filled magazine into the magazine well until the magazine catch engages audibly. Tug to check.
- Depress upper end of bolt catch (Fig. 21), thus releasing the bolt and allowing it to snap forward chambering a round.

WARNING: The USC is now fully loaded and with the safety on.

Flg. 21 Depress bolt catch to release the bolt

With heavy external fouling of the USC, (sand, sludge) or to load the firearm quietly, the thumb recess on the bolt may be used as a forward assist (Fig 25A). To do so use the thumb recess, push bolt forwards until it is in the forward most position.



Flg. 22 Forward Assist

USC STORAGE

1. Store the carbine clean and lubricated.
2. Store the carbine without a round in the chamber.
3. Store the carbine with the cocking lever forward and the hammer down (at rest).
4. After no more than twelve (12) months unload all loaded magazines and replace the ammunition with fresh ammunition.
5. Clean and lubricate the carbine and magazines every twelve (12) months while in storage.
6. Store the carbine is a clean, dry environment with regulated temperature controls.

DISASSEMBLY

NOTE: The USC is easily disassembled and reassembled with the HK Tool. Do not use force in any of the disassembly procedures. Disassembly beyond the procedures outlined in this manual is not recommended and may void the HK Warranty. Disassembly beyond the operators level described here may be carried out by qualified maintenance personnel only. Contact HK for more information.

Clear the carbine! Before handling the firearm, "clear it!" Do so by:

1 • Make sure fingers are outside of the trigger guard and the weapon is pointed in a safe direction at all times!

2 • ON SAFE – Rotate the safety/selector lever to the "Safe" position. (With the safety/selector lever set at the white box with a white bullet symbol inside.)

3 • REMOVE MAGAZINE – Depress the magazine release lever and remove the magazine from the magazine well.

4 • COCKING LEVER – Rotate the ejection port towards the ground and pull the cocking lever rearward one or more times to insure the chamber is empty. Watch for a live round or empty case to be ejected. Rotate the cocking lever upward slightly and lock it into the indent in the cocking lever housing to lock the bolt open.

5 • INSPECT CHAMBER – Inspect chamber for the presence of a live round or empty case.
Visually – View chamber through open ejection port.
Physically – Insert index finger through magazine well or ejection port and feel for the presence of a round or cartridge case in the chamber.
Remove any live rounds or empty cases from the chamber or from within the firearm or magazine before handling the USC further.

The HK USC is now considered "Clear." Once clear, let the bolt move forwards.

Stripping into assembly groups

1 • Detach carrying sling
2 • Use the 5 mm Allen wrench of the HK tool and remove the hex headed Allen screws located on the left and right sides of at the rear end of the receiver
3 • Pull the buttstock straight backwards out of the guiding rails of the lower the receiver.
4 • Swivel the lower receiver downwards at an angle of approximately 45° and detach it from the support bolts of the upper receiver (figures 23 & 24).

Fig. 23 Detaching lower receiver

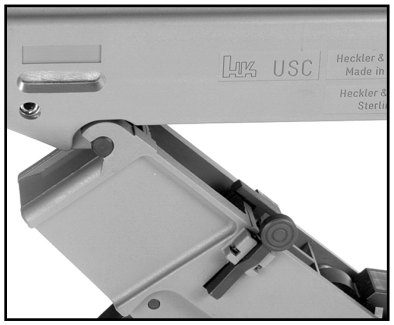


Fig. 24 (Detail) lower receiver

5 • Pull back the cocking lever and remove the recoil spring assembly and the bolt to the rear (figure 25).

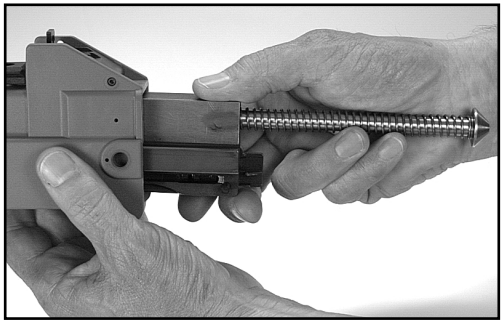


Fig. 25 Removing recoil spring

Disassembly of the Bolt

1 • Push and hold firing pin forward.
2 • Pull out firing pin assembly retaining pin to the left (Fig. 28).
3 • Remove firing pin assembly and firing pin spring to the rear. To do this, push the locking catch to the right (Fig. 29). With your thumb prevent the firing pin assembly with firing pin spring from springing out.

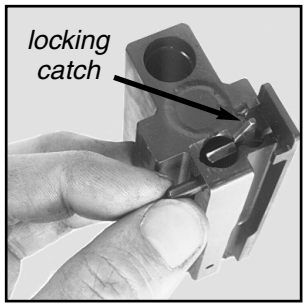


Fig. 28
Pull out firing pin retaining pin

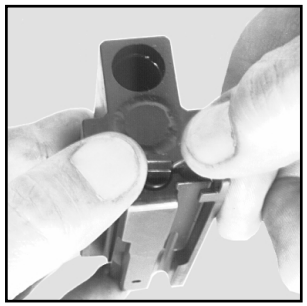


Fig. 29
Push locking catch to the right

WARNING: Never disassemble the firing pin. It is possible to assemble the firing pin assembly incorrectly and in doing so, disabling the USC firing pin safety. Contact HK for more information.

Assembly of the Bolt

1 • Place firing pin spring onto firing pin.
2 • Insert firing pin spring and firing pin assembly into the bolt from the rear and push them forwards (Fig. 30).
3 • Using any pointed object push the rear end of the firing pin forwards (Fig. 31).
4 • Insert firing pin retaining pin from the left to retain firing pin assembly in the bolt.

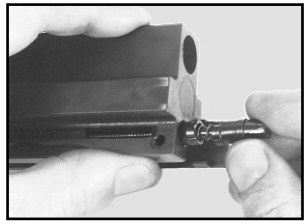


Fig. 30
Insert firing pin spring and firing pin assembly

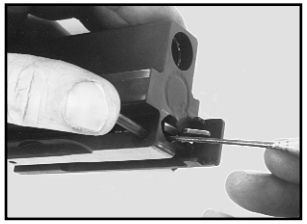


Fig. 31
Push firing pin forwards

Disassembly of the Magazine

1 • Depress locking plate through magazine floor plate and slide magazine floor plate to the rear (fig. 30).
2 • Detach magazine floor plate to the rear.
3 • Remove follower spring with locking plate and follower.

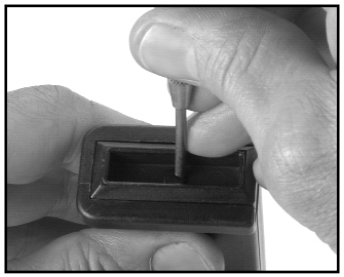


Fig. 30

CAUTION: Magazine floor plate is under spring tension. With your thumb secure locking plate with follower spring to prevent it from springing out.

Assembly of Magazine

1 • Insert follower and follower spring with locking plate into the magazine housing from below.
2 • Fully depress follower spring and locking plate (Fig. 31) and slide magazine floor plate onto magazine housing from the rear.
3 • Push magazine floor plate forwards as far as it will go.
4 • Check that the floorplate is fully seated and secured in place by the tab of the locking plate.

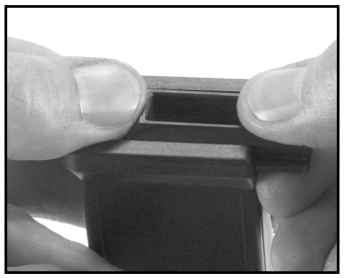


Fig. 31

Reassembly of the USC

1 • With the cocking lever forward, insert the bolt and recoil spring assembly to the receiver from the rear.
2 • From below, engage lower receiver (hammer between cocked and released positions) into the support bolts on the upper receiver and swivel it upwards (Fig. 32).

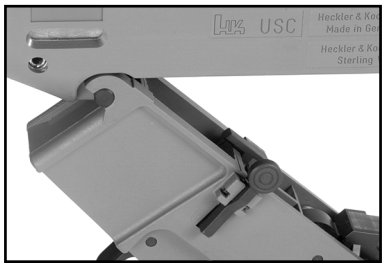


Fig. 32

3 • Hold the upper and lower receiver firmly together. Slide buttstock guiding rails horizontally into the appropriate slots of the lower receiver (Fig. 33).

Fig. 33
Pushing buttstock into upper and lower receiver

4 • Fasten the buttstock to the upper receiver by means of the two Allen screws with the HK tool (do not use excessive force to tighten the screws down).
5 • Put the USC safety/selector on (Safe).
6 • Insert empty magazine.
7 • Carry out a function check as described on page 26.
8 • Attach carrying sling (Fig. 34)

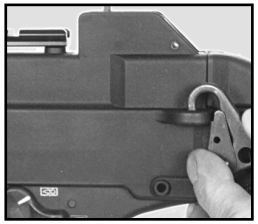


Fig. 34
Attaching carrying sling

NOTE: A Function Check should be performed anytime the carbine is reassembled. This quick check indicates whether or not the carbine has been properly assembled and/or assembled with all components. A properly executed Function Check can also reveal many of the more obvious malfunctions that could occur between the interactive components of the carbine. ALWAYS clear the carbine before performing the Function Check! ENSURE the carbine is clear!

1 • **Clear the carbine!**
2 • Place the cocking lever and bolt group in the forward position.
3 • With the carbine on “Safe”, pull the trigger. Hammer should not fall.
4 • Place the weapon on “Semi-automatic”. Pull the trigger and hold the trigger back. Hammer should fall.
5 • Still holding the trigger back, recock the carbine. Release the trigger. Listen for the “click” of the trigger and sear resetting. Pull the trigger. Hammer should fall.
6 • The Function Check is now complete.

Operator Cleaning

- The functional performance of any mechanical device varies greatly on the quality and frequency of the maintenance performed on that item. Firearms are no exception. The operator spends most of the time with the weapon and therefore has the best opportunity to perform the necessary upkeep required to insure top performance at all times.
- Metal components of new USC are coated in a thick, oily preservative that should be removed prior to the weapon being used or fired. This preservative oil, applied by HK personnel prior to the shipment of the weapons from the manufacturing facility in Germany, guarantees that the weapons and accessories will remain corrosion-free during storage and transport. However, this preservative fluid is not considered a lubricant and therefore should be removed and replaced with a high-quality weapons lubricant whenever possible. This preservative fluid attracts debris and dirt and possesses little or no lubrication qualities.
- Cleaning the USC, especially with its polymer construction, need not take hours and a great deal of effort. With the right equipment a very fouled USC should be able to be thoroughly cleaned in less than 10 minutes. A solvent tank where the parts can be immersed in and scrubbed will save a great deal of time and effort as will compressed air to blow off the fouling and solvent or to spread the lubricant. There are companies, such as ***Safety-Kleen***, that sell or rent such solvent tanks and will exchange the solvent on a regular basis at a reasonable price.

NOTE: If using ultra sonic cleaning machines, do not immense the painted portion of the USC, specifically the color pictogram firing mode markings on the lower receiver. Ultra sonic cleaning or strong solvents will remove the markings!

- If such a set up is not available to you, a complete weapons cleaning kit specially designed for the HK USC will reduce your cleaning time and make the job easier.
- Any quality weapons solvent or oil can be used to clean the USC. Basically, if it’s safe to put your bare hands into it won’t hurt the surfaces of the weapon. ***Break-Free (CLP), Ballistol, Militec*** or any of the other brand-name cleaners or lubricants specifically designed for use with weapons will work well on the USC.
- At HK we recommend two types of operator cleaning. Normal cleaning and Major cleaning.

Normal cleaning
Performed after each firing or every twelve (12) months.

Major cleaning
Often referred to as “detailed cleaning”. Performed on a USC after 1,000 rounds or when the weapon is exposed to or excessively laden with sand, dust, water or other visible contaminants or foreign matter.

- The cleaning intervals listed here are recommendations only!
- Your intervals between cleaning will vary greatly depending on many factors to include the type of ammunition used, the environment in which the weapon is used, and the thoroughness of your cleaning, etc.

Normal cleaning

1. **CLEAR THE CARBINE!**
2. Disassemble the weapon into the major assembly groups.

Multi-purpose carrying sling The nylon webbing and plastic components of the multi-purpose carrying sling can be cleaned using warm water and a soft bristled brush. Allow the sling material to dry completely before storage or use. Avoid getting the metal sling components wet.

Buttstock Simply remove any foreign debris from the exterior polymer and rubber surface of the buttstock using a toothbrush, rag, swabs or compressed air when available.

Lower receiver Remove any foreign debris from the plastic pistol grip using a tooth-brush, rag, swabs or compressed air. Scrub the top of the hammer, ejector and the area around the front of the ejector with a small amount of solvent or oil to break up the carbon fouling. Remove the loose fouling and debris by rinsing the components in the a solvent tank or by using rags, swabs, or compressed air.

Forearm / foregrip Remove any foreign debris from the forearm or optional foregrip using a toothbrush, rag or compressed air.

Upper receiver with barrel Start with the bore and chamber.

- **Bore** – Apply a liberal amount of solvent to a bronze bristle bore brush of the appropriate caliber. Always insert the bore brush from the chamber end and push it all the way through the barrel in the direction that the bullet travels. Pull the brush back through the barrel. DO NOT use stainless steel brushes as they will damage the USC’s rifling. DO NOT allow the brush to stop in the bore or it may get stuck! Repeat this in/out procedure for a minimum of three complete trips. Remove the bore brush and let the solvent work in the bore for a few minutes while you clean other components.

- **Chamber** – Apply a liberal amount of solvent to the appropriate bore brush. Insert the brush through the back of the receiver into the chamber. **DO NOT** push the brush past the chamber! Work the brush back and forth in the chamber at least three times. Remove the brush and let the solvent go to work on the fouling for a few minutes while you work on other components.
- **Chamber face** – This area is easily tackled using the special Chamber Face brush available in the HK Field Cleaning Kit for the USC carbine. Attach this brush to the cleaning rod and lock the handle so that the rod and brush can be turned together. Apply a liberal amount of solvent to the bristles of the brush. Insert the brush through the back of the receiver until it makes contact with the area surrounding the opening to the chamber and bore. With slight inward pressure, rotate the brush in a clockwise direction to break up the carbon fouling built-up on the face of the chamber. Continue this procedure until you are satisfied with your efforts.
- **Upper Receiver** – Apply a few drops of solvent to a toothbrush and scrub the area around the chamber face and along the length of the receiver rails to break-up the carbon fouling. Remove all of the fouling, carbon, and visible debris from the entire upper receiver using a solvent tank and compressed air or swabs, patches, rags, etc. Run al least three clean patches of the appropriate size all the way through the bore in the direction of bullet travel to remove the loose fouling and solvent.
- **Muzzle** – Use a nylon bristle toothbrush and a small amount of solvent to remove any fouling from the muzzle.

Bolt group Scrub all parts of the bolt group with a toothbrush and solvent where carbon is visible, especially around the face of the bolt and the extractor. ***Do not attempt to remove the extractor for cleaning!*** There is no functional need to remove the extractor for normal cleaning. Remove the loose fouling from all parts using a rag, swabs or compressed air.

Magazine Don’t forget the magazines! They are very important and very often overlooked during cleaning. Many stoppages occur as a result of improperly maintained magazines. Apply a few drops of solvent to a toothbrush and scrub the top of the magazine to remove any visible carbon fouling or loose debris. Pay special attention to the front edge of the housing, feed lips, and the follower. Remove the solvent and loose fouling from the magazine using a rag, swabs or compressed air.

Major Cleaning
As mentioned earlier, Major cleaning should be performed after 1,000 rounds are fired through a USC. Major cleaning is also performed when the weapon has been immersed in water or is laden with large amounts of visible foreign matter or fouling.

During major cleaning, all firearm components except the painted surfaces (firing modes symbols) and the carrying sling, should be rinsed with or immersed in solvent and scrubbed thoroughly with a brush. This includes the magazine and it's parts. The components can then be dried using a rag or swabs, though compressed air is preferable for Major cleaning.

If any assembly groups require a more thorough cleaning, an "ultra-sonic" cleaning machine can be used containing any solvent that it is safe to place your bare hands in, as a general rule.

However, avoid placing painted surfaces such as the firing mode markings on the lower receiver into an ultra-sonic cleaner, as this may remove the colored markings. Further disassembly of any assembly group(s) beyond the level described above ***must*** be performed by, or at a minimum supervised by, an HK factory-trained armorer.

Operator inspection
During or after cleaning the operator should inspect the firearm and it's components for any irregularities that may causes problems during it's operation. If any potential deficiencies are noted, they should be corrected immediately and/or brought to the attention of the unit armorer. In general, the operator should keep a watchful eye out for the following discrepancies both in the weapon as a whole and in each assembly group.

- Improper function
- Missing parts
- Cosmetic flaws (cracks, dents, burrs, rust, etc.)
- Improper assembly
- Loss of spring tension (where applicable)
- Unusual looseness (where applicable)
- Cracked welds
- Excessive wear
- Absence of protective finish (where applicable)
- Absence of proper lubrication

Also check these more areas where problems may begin in the USC.

Lubrication
Any type of high-quality, medium-weight lubricant (oil) specifically designed for use on firearms such as ***Break-Free (C.L.P.) Ballistol,*** or ***Militec*** will work well on the HK USC carbine. **DO NOT** use lubricants/cleaners that boast of their ability to penetrate metal (i.e. ***WD-40, Tri-Flow,*** etc.) as these substances may deaden primers.

Where and how much?
No Lube – (surface is dry and not slippery to the touch)

- Sling material
- Plastic components

Light Lube – (finger run across surface yields little or no lube)

- Bore and chamber
- All metal parts (except sound suppressor)
- Muzzle
- Magazine spring
- Axles of all operating controls (cocking lever, bolt catch, safety/selector lever, magazine catch, etc.)
- Rear sight assembly
- All metal accessories

Medium Lube – (finger run across surface yields some lube but lube does not run down surface when held in a vertical position)

- Bolt group with recoil spring and guide rod

Heavy Lube – (Lube runs down surface when held in a vertical position) ***No heavy lube is required on the HK USC!***

- Reapply lubrication to the bolt of the USC periodically during firing as it burns off from the heat.

- Apply lubricant using a shaving brush, swabs, patches, or rag. A spray bottle also works well using compressed air to circulate the lubricant into all parts and to remove the excess.

Ammunition
The USC carbine was designed to use ammunition made to NATO or SAAMI specifications. Like an automobile engine, you cannot expect top performance by using poor quality fuel. The same applies to firearms. There are a number of general considerations that should be made when choosing the type of ammunition you plan to use in the USC.

DO USE
- Ammunition of the appropriate caliber and of recent manufacture
- Clean burning ammunition
- Non-corrosive ammunition
- Jacketed Hollow Point (JHP), “Silver-Tip”, ball, truncated cone, “Hydra Shok”, +P, etc.

DO NOT USE
- Reloads or remanufactured ammunition. Beware of military surplus, foreign or outdated ammunition.
- Non-jacketed or exposed lead ammunition
- Corrosive ammunition (primer and/or propellant)
- Empty cases as “dummy“ (inert) rounds, as damage may result to the weapon, especially the synthetic magazines employed in the USC. Use complete dummy rounds available for training purposes.
- Any ammunition that exceeds NATO or S.A.A.M.I. pressure limits

WARNING: Only use ammunition designed to SAAMI specifications that is factory-loaded, undamaged, and of the correct caliber. The use of low powered cartridges (including wadcutter and semi-wadcutters bullets) could lead to functional stoppages (including bullets stuck in the barrel) and is not recommended.

Stoppages
In the event of stoppages on the USC, the carbine is to be considered loaded until the actual cause of the stoppage has been determined. During the elimination of stoppages, safety precautions are to be taken into account.

In the event of stoppages on the USC, for example the cartridge fired from the USC is not ignited, the bolt assembly does not close completely, or the spent cartridge case is not ejected, the following immediate steps have to be taken:

1. Put the USC safety/selector on (Safe).
2. Remove the magazine.
3. Pull rearward on the cocking lever and lock the bolt open.
4. Ensure that barrel, cartridge chamber and receiver are free of obstructions.
5. Next, determine and eliminate the cause of the stoppage. The items indicated in the following tables do not cover all stoppages theoretically possible. A given stoppage may also have been caused by other reasons than the ones indicated.

Stoppage	Cause	Remedy
Cartridge not ignited	Ammunition fault (Dud round)	Replace round
	Firing pin damaged or broken	Take USC to maintenance shop
	Hammer spring damaged or broken	Take USC to maintenance shop
Bolt did not stay open on the last shot	Cartridge case stuck in chamber because it is deformed or the chamber is dirty	Unload. Retract bolt to eject spent case. Clean if fouled. If required take USC to maintenance shop
Cartridge case not extracted or ejected	Chamber is dirty	Clean cartridge chamber
	Extractor broken	Take USC to maintenance shop
	Ejector damaged	Take USC to maintenance shop
	Insufficient bolt recoil	Unload. Retract cocking lever to eject spent case. Check for smooth movement of bolt and check chamber for fouling. Clean if required.

Stoppage	Cause	Remedy
No cartridge fed by bolt.	Magazine not properly inserted	Insert magazine properly
	Magazine loose	Check magazine catch and tab on magazine. If required take USC to maintenance shop.
	Follower spring lame	Replace magazine or follower spring and take to maintenance shop.
	Magazine lips damaged	Replace magazine or magazine housing and take the damaged one to maintenance shop
Bolt not fully closed. Cartridge not fully fed	Cartridge chamber dirty	Clean cartridge chamber
	Cartridge damaged	Replace cartridge
	Recoil spring lame shop	Take USC to maintenance
	Improperly cocked	Allow cocking lever to snap forward. On releasing cocking lever do not ride it forward.
Bolt does not stay open after last shot	Magazine spring lame	Replace magazine and take damaged one to the maintenance shop
	Bolt catch damaged	Take USC to maintenance shop
Magazine stuck in magazine well	Magazine damaged	Replace magazine housing and take damaged one to to the maintenance shop
	Magazine catch defective	Take USC to maintenance shop

Carrying sling

The carrying sling enables the USC to be carried in several ways. The carrying sling is attached to the mounting points on the receiver, handstop, or buttstock via the carbine hooks.

Length Adjustment

1 • Close coupler
2 • Rest the carrying sling between thumb and index finger and let the USC hang down in a horizontal position. Adjust the length in such a way that there is a space of approximately 10 cm (4 inches) between your forearm and the USC.

For adjustment

1 • Slide the forward buckle and coupler with the sewn-up end as far as possible up to the front carbine.
2 • Somewhat loosen the belt loop in the rear buckle.
3 • To shorten the carrying sling, pull the upper loop forwards
4 • To lengthen the carrying sling, pull the upper loop to the rear.
5 • Tighten loop in the buckle
6 • Tighten carrying sling

Routing the Carrying sling

In order to carry the USC laterally against the body or in front of the body (ready position), or on the back, the carrying sling must be properly routed. To do so:

1 • Pull the two halves of the carrying sling apart and upwards.
2 • Place the upper part of the carrying sling onto your shoulder over your head.

Sight Adjustment

If the point of impact has to be corrected, this will be done by adjustment of the rear sight using the Allen wrench provided with the weapon. The USC is zeroed at the factory to hit the point of aim at 25 meters (27.3 yards).

Elevation adjustment

- To lower the weapon's point of impact, turn the elevation adjustment screw clockwise.
- To raise the weapon's point of impact, turn the elevation adjustment screw counterclockwise.

NOTE: 1 revolution of the elevation adjustment screw changes the point of impact by 4.5 centimeters (1.77 inches) at a range of 25 meters (27.3 yards).

Windage adjustment

- To move the weapon's point of impact to the left, turn the windage adjustment screw counterclockwise.
- To move the weapon's point of impact to the right, turn the windage adjustment screw clockwise.

NOTE: 1 click of the windage adjustment screw changes the point of impact by 1.15 centimeters (.45 inches) at a range of 25 meters (27.3 yards).

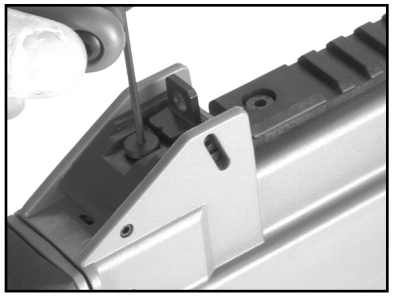
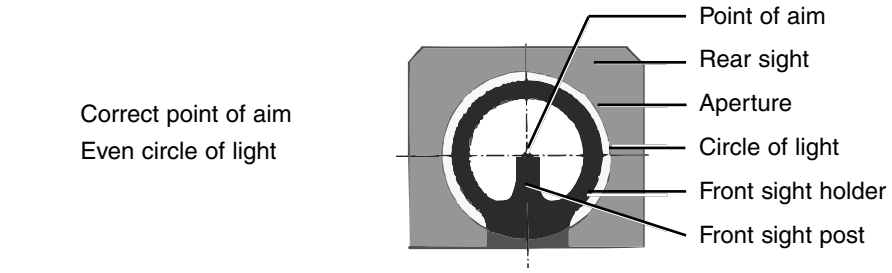
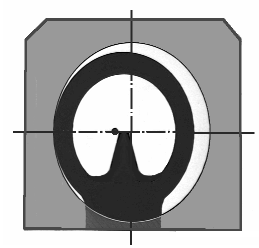


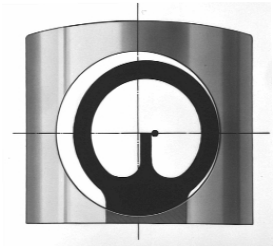
Fig. 40 Elevation adjustment

Fig. 41 Windage adjustment

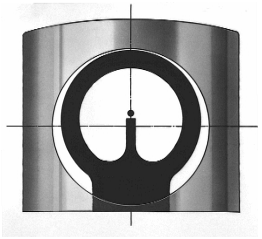




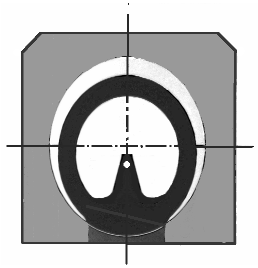
Impact as with incorrectly centered front sight = left



Impact as with incorrectly centered front sight = right



Impact as with full sight = high



Impact as with fine sight = low

Fig. 42 Sight pictures

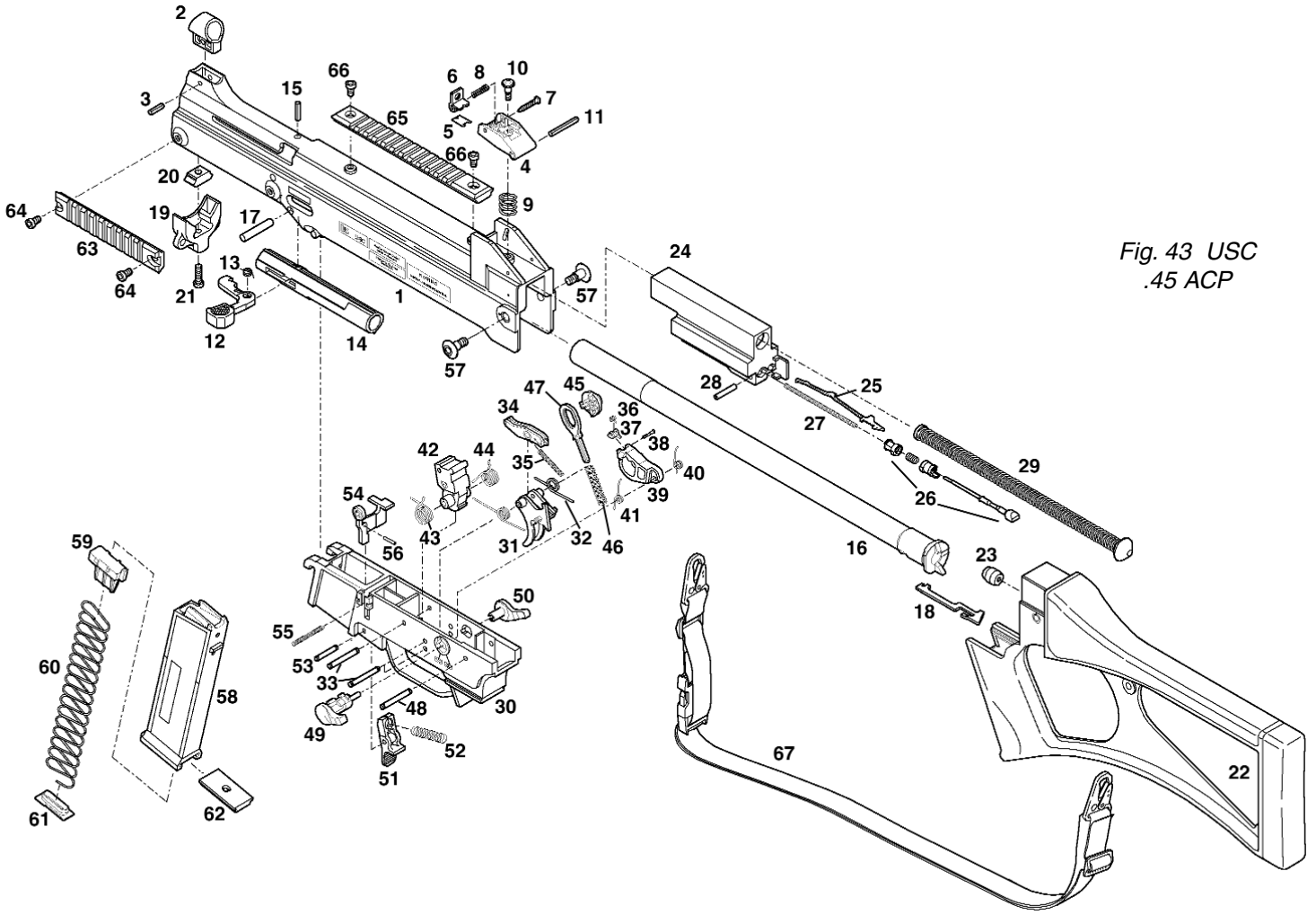


Fig. 43 USC .45 ACP

Item	Description	Part No.
*	Upper receiver with barrel, complete (I - 21)	
1	Upper receiver, incomplete	219492
2	Front sight	217506
3	Roll pin, front sight, 4 x 144 mm	928747
*	Rear sight, complete (4 - 10)	217513
4	Sight support	217504
5	Flat spring	217515
6	Rear sight	217516
7	Windage adjustment screw	217517
8	Rear sight spring	217518
9	Sight support spring	217503
10	Elevation adjustment screw	217505
11	Roll pin, sight support, 4 x 30 mm	987695
12	Cocking lever	217519
13	Cocking lever spring	217508
14	Cocking lever support	217507
15	Roll pin, cocking lever support, 4 x 16 mm	986546
16	Barrel .45 ACP	219497
17	Roll pin, barrel, 6 x 32 mm	988425
18	Ejector	219399
*	Hand stop, complete. (19-21)	219364

Item	Description	Part No.
19	Hand stop, incomplete	219342
20	Insert plate, handstop	219343
21	Cylindrical screw, handstop 5 x 16 mm	219414
*	Buttstock, complete (24- 25)	219496
22	Buttstock	217528
23	Buffer	217544
*	Bolt, complete .45 ACP (24 - 29)	219495
24	Bolt, incomplete, .45 ACP	219499
25	Extractor .45 ACP	217573
26	Firing pin assembly, complete	217555
27	Firing pin spring	217523
28	Firing pin retaining pin	217587
29	Recoil spring assembly, complete	217548
*	Lower receiver, complete (30-56)	219487
30	Lower receiver, incomplete	219491
31	Trigger	205420
32	Trigger spring	217918
33	Axle (3x)	217532
34	Sear, complete	205439
35	Sear spring	217917
*	Locking lever complete	219094

Item	Description	Part No.
36	Locking lever spring	214616
37	Locking lever	219095
38	Bolt	214615
39	Locking lever housing	214613
40	Elbow spring right	217946
41	Elbow spring left	205201
42	Hammer	217936
43	Hammer spring, left	217533
44	Hammer spring, right	217585
45	Notched disk	217614
46	Compression spring	205418
47	Index plate	205419
48	Axle, locking lever	219521
49	Safety lever, left	217945
50	Safety lever, right	205437
51	Magazine release	219530
52	Magazine release spring	217536
53	Magazine release axle	219549
54	Bolt catch	217540
55	Bolt catch spring	217539
56	Roll pin,bolt catch, 2 x 12 mm	928080

Item	Description	Part No.
57	Allen screw, buttstock (2)	217903
*	Magazine complete .45 (58 - 62)	219486
58	Magazine housing, .45 ACP	219522
59	Follower .45 ACP	219523
60	Magazine spring .45 ACP	219524
61	Locking plate .45 ACP	219525
62	Floor plate	219526
*	Picatinny rail, short, complete with screws	219662
63	Picatinny rail, short	219660
64	Cylindrical screw (2x)	219413
*	Picatinny rail, long, complete (66 - 67)	219663
65	Picatinny rail, long	219661
66	Cylindrical screw (2x)	219413
*	HK tool	988496
67	Carrying sling, USC complete	214085
*	Adaptor for UTL*	219693
*	not pictured	

Specifications

Caliber . . . . . .45 ACP
Operating principle . . . . . .Simple blow back, firing from a closed bolt position

Dimensions

Overall length . . . . . 900 mm (35.43 in)
Overall width . . . . . 55 mm (2.17 in)
Overall height with magazine . . . . . 243 mm (9.75 in)
Barrel length . . . . . 406 mm (16 in)
Twist length . . . . . 406 mm (16 in)
Sight radius . . . . . 327 mm (12.87 in)

Weights

USC without magazine . . . . . approximately 2.715 kg (6 lb.)
Magazine, empty (10 rounds) . . . . . 0.098 kg (.216 lb.)
Carrying sling . . . . . 0.10 kg (.22 lb.)

Other Data

Firing modes . . . . . Semi -automatic
Sights . . . . . Modular approach,
Standard adjustable mechanical sight,
Accessory mounting rails for optional aiming devices
Bore profile . . . . . 6x polygonal, right-hand twist

Firearm Type _____ Serial Number _____

Date	Number of Rounds Fired	Cumulative Total of Rounds Fired	Users Name	Maintenance & Remarks

In a world of compromise, some don't.

HK USA 6/01 #701474

Remember, firearms safety begins with you. Read and follow all safety information in the operators manual. Store all firearms in a safe and secure location. Keep firearms away from children. Always be a safe shooter.

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